

## Outcome Document - Third Forum on Housing, Land and Property (HLP)

Mogadishu, Somalia - 24 May 2017

### Drought Displacement, HLP and Urban Solutions

A cross section of government and humanitarian stakeholders, including the Director of Emergency at the Banadir Regional Administration, met on the 24<sup>th</sup> of May 2017 in Mogadishu to discuss HLP dynamics that are inextricably linked to drought displacement and the attainment of durable solutions in urban settings. Informed by presentations delivered by NRC, Tana Foundation, and the Heritage Institute for Policy Studies, the discussions crosscut issues ranging from drought-induced displacement and country-wide eviction trends to the complexities underpinning land use in Mogadishu and accountability for managers of informal settlements.

NRC highlighted the alarming trends of forced evictions, which to some degree, demonstrated reasonable correlation between eviction trends and areas with huge concentration of drought displaced. Indisputably, forced eviction remains one of the main causes of secondary displacements which in turn trigger serious protection violations, with women and children being those disproportionately affected. Eviction case studies from Mogadishu and Bossaso were used to illustrate the problematic nature of the phenomenon. TANA Foundation presented a unique perspective on the management of informal settlements. Among other things, the presentation outlined critical parallels between the emergence of Informal Settlement Management (ISM) structures, inadequate outreach by local government authorities as well as opportunities related to strengthening the accountability of ISMs by instituting a semi-formal monitoring system co-led by ISMs and local municipalities. Presentations concluded with the Heritage Institute for Policy Studies profiling in extensive historical details the main issues related to displacement and land tenure in Mogadishu.

Ultimately, participants identified the following advocacy points for the attention of the Federal Government of Somalia, Federal Member States, municipalities, district councils and settlement managers.

- Federal and Federal Member States: the administration and management of HLP assets were found to be central in many unresolved legislative processes, including those pertaining to national reconciliation drives. In particular, it was recommended that practitioners and policy makers explore different tenure options in order to contain entrenchment and the spreading of informal settlements while at the same time enhancing tenure security for the most vulnerable. Similarly, participants reiterated the importance of adopting appropriate policy frameworks on displacement and evictions, or enforcing relevant existing ones.
- Local government institutions and camp management: municipalities and district councils are called upon to work alongside camp management structures in an effort to i) promote robust participation in urban planning or city extension processes, ii) strengthen urban planning departments (wherever possible), iii) enforce and mainstream evictions standards as per established guidelines, and iv) create and/or formalize joint settlement monitoring committees with the view of enhancing their accountability vis-à-vis authorities and populations of concern.
- Coordination: participants suggested the strengthening inter-cluster joint advocacy initiatives, and having the Protection, Shelter, and Camp Coordination and Camp Management Clusters mainstream HLP issues. Such collaboration may help finding partners and resources to improve and systematize the profiling of settlements and victims of forced evictions.

Based on these recommendations, and to ensure continuous active engagement on these issues, participants agreed that it would be necessary to convene additional follow-up forums on specific advocacy subject(s) with local authorities and cluster coordination partners in greater attendance.